(y)

FILED

AUG 1 8 2005

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

In re ) Case )
HENRY HENLEY and ) DC N
SANDRA J. HENLEY, )
Debtors.

Case No. 05-25817-C-7
DC No. DKC-01

#### FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW ON MOTION TO AVOID LIEN

These findings of fact and conclusions of law are rendered in this contested matter pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 52 as incorporated by Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure 7052 and 9014.

## Jurisdiction

Jurisdiction is founded upon 28 U.S.C. § 1334. This is a core proceeding. 28 U.S.C. § 157(b)(2)(K).

## Findings of Fact

On July 18, 2005, debtors filed a motion, notice, and certificate of service requesting that this court avoid a judgment lien in favor of Ford Motor Credit Company. A hearing was scheduled for August 16, 2005 to consider the motion. Upon review of the record, the court determined that the written record was adequate and that no oral argument was necessary.

In reviewing debtors' proof of service, the court notes

1 2

3

4

5

6 7

8

9

11

12 13

14

15

16 17

18

19

20

21 22

23

24

2526

27

28

that debtors served Ford Motor Credit Company at two p.o. box addresses.

#### Conclusions of Law

Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 9014(b) requires that a motion initiating a contested matter "shall be served in the manner provided for service of a summons and complaint by Rule 7004." Fed. R. Bankr. P. 9014(b).

Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 7004(b)(3) provides in pertinent part:

Except as provided in subdivision(h), in addition-to the methods of service authorized by Rule 4(e)-(j) F.R.Civ.P., service may be made within the United States by first class postage prepaid as follows... Upon a domestic or foreign corporation or upon a partnership or other unincorporated association, by mailing a copy of the summons and complaint to the attention of an officer, a managing or general agent, or to any other agent authorized by appointment or by law to receive service of process and, if the agent is one authorized by statute to receive service and the statute so requires, by also mailing a copy of the defendant.

Fed. R. Bank. P. 7004(b)(3).

Here, debtors' service of motion does not comply with the requirement to serve the motion to the attention of an officer or other agent authorized as provided in Rule 7004(b)(3). Beneficial California, Inc. v. Villar (In re Villar), 317 B.R. 88, 93 (9th Cir. BAP 2004). The court notes that a corporation's agent for service of process may be identified by visiting the California Secretary of State's website at www.ss.ca.gov. The website contains a

# Case 05-25817 Filed 08/18/05 Doc 22

link to the "California Business Portal" which provides an online service titled "California Business Search."

Therein, corporate information, including the agent for service of process, may be obtained by entering the corporation's name in the search engine.

Accordingly, the motion is denied.

An appropriate order will issue.

Dated: August 18, 2005

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY JUDGE

1

# 2

3

4 5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22 23

24

25

26 27

28

#### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

On the date indicated below, I served a true and correct copy(ies) of the attached document by placing said copy(ies) in a postage paid envelope addressed to the person(s) hereinafter listed and by depositing said envelope in the United States mail or by placing said copy(ies) into an interoffice delivery receptacle located in the Clerk's Office.

Henry Henley, Jr. P.O. Box 42 Old Station, CA 96071

Sandra J. Henley P.O. Box 42 Old Station, CA 96071

Dennis Cowan P.O. Box 992090 Redding, CA 96099-2090

John Reger P.O. Box 933 Palo Cedro, CA 96073

Ford Motor Credit P.O. Box 54200 Omaha, NE 68154

Ford Motor Credit P.O. Box 13807 Sacramento, CA 95853

Office of the United States Trustee United States Courthouse 501 "I" Street, Suite 7-500 Sacramento, CA 95814

Dated: 8 /22 /05